

Application No. 10/600,436
Amendment dated July 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 15, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims

Claim 1: (currently amended) A cover for grass protection comprising a composite layer composed of:

an open mesh weave of thermoplastic material, said weave having warp and weft strips forming a substantially thin uniform layer having opposed upper and lower surfaces, said mesh defining individual slits extending through said layer;

a discontinuous heat absorbing lace coating on the upper one of said opposed surfaces, and a discontinuous heat reflecting lace coating on the other lower one of said opposed surfaces, each of said discontinuous heat reflecting and heat absorbing lace coatings being present on each of said opposed surfaces to an extent whereby at least 35% of each of said surfaces is covered by said respective lace coating, and wherein the combined total lace coating coverage of both of said surfaces of said composite covers up to 55% of the total surface area of said open mesh weave material.

Claim 2: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein said layer coating on each surface has a thickness of at least .5 mil.

Claim 3: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein each said layer coating covers between 5 35 to about 60% of each surface of said composite

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layer.

Claim 4: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein each said layer coating covers between about 5 35 to 40% of each surface of said composite layer.

Claim 5: (original) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein the plastic material forming the strips of said composite is polyolefin.

Claim 6: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 5, wherein said polyolefin is a polyethylene and said layer coating is a polyethylene compatible with said polyethylene strip.

Claim 7: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein said layer coating includes a colouring agent of a wavelength having heat absorption properties.

Claim 8: (original) The composite layer according to claim 7, wherein said colouring agent is selected from the colours green, blue, brown and black.

Claim 9: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein said layer coating includes a colouring agent of a specified wavelength having heat reflective properties.

Claim 10: (original) The composite layer according to claim 9, wherein said colouring agent is selected from the colours white, silver, gold and bronze.

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Claim 11: (original) The composite according to claim 1, wherein said composite layer is of a size to cover a grassed substrate such as a golf course green.

Claim 12: (original) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein said composite is secured over a substrate.

Claim 13: (original) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein said open mesh weave has openings which allow water to permeate therethrough.

Claim 14: (currently amended) The composite layer according to claim 1, wherein the coating on each surface of said open mesh weave amounts to a total of 5 35% to 80% of the combined total surface area of both faces surfaces.

Claim 15: (currently amended) A method of forming a heat absorbing and heat reflective composite layer comprising the steps of:

providing an opening-mesh weave of thermoplastic material in which the material has warp and weft strips forming a substantially uniform layer and having opposed upper and lower major surfaces;

said open-mesh weave has openings of a size sufficient to permit the passage of water therethrough;

coating one of said lower surfaces with a discontinuous or intermittent coating having heat reflective properties wherein said coating covers about 35% of said surface; and

coating the other said upper surface with a discontinuous or intermittent coating having heat absorbing properties wherein said coating covers about 35% of said surface, and wherein the combined total lace coating coverage of both of said surfaces of said composite covers up to 55% of the total surface area of said open mesh weave

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material.

Claim 16: (original) The method according to claim 15, wherein said coating is extruded onto said open mesh weave.

Claim 17: (currently amended) A method for protecting or enhancing turf, lawn, garden or other substrate comprising:

~~apply to placing in juxtaposition with~~ said substrate a protective layer of a composite, said composite comprising:

an open mesh weave of thermoplastic material, said weave having warp and weft strips forming a substantially uniform layer having opposed upper and lower major surfaces, said layer having on one an upper surface thereof a heat absorbing discontinuous or intermittent coating and on the other lower surface a heat reflective discontinuous or intermittent coating;

said composite being applied to said substrate with said heat absorption layer forming an outer face surface and said heat reflective layer being in contact with said substrate;

releasably securing said protective layer to said substrate; and,
removing said protective layer when protection is not desired.

Claim 18: (currently amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein said coating covers between about 5 35 to 60% of each surface of said composite layer.

Claim 19: (currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said coating covers between about 5 35 to 40% of each surface of said composite layer.

Claim 20: (currently amended) The method according to claim 17, wherein said coating

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on each surface of said open mesh weave amounts to a total of 5 55% to 80% of the combined total surface area of both faces surfaces.